

The welders in my office seemed almost sheepish when I asked how they came to the trade. The common theme was that they didn't do well in school. I'll tell you what I told them: They're amazing. At 22, 29 and 32 they are making more than many graduates of college or even law school. They take the work that's offered, even if it means leaving home at 4:30 a.m. and driving an hour and half. They like their jobs and are good at them.

The policy debates in Washington—over the corporate tax, the income tax, regulatory reform, infrastructure spending—should be centered on creating positions like these. Republicans and Democrats should pledge to work together to create and fill, by 2020, five million new jobs that pay at least \$80,000 a year.

Americans don't need corporate-tax reform simply because companies need more money to buy back stock or increase dividends. They don't need income-tax "simplification" only because the wealthy want bigger paychecks. They don't need regulatory reform because workers and consumers have too many protections. And they don't need a massive infrastructure plan only because America's roads, bridges, sewers, water lines and mass transit systems are in disrepair.

Americans need these things because they will create jobs at home and rebuild the middle class. My welder buddies are losing faith. So are those computer machinists, and millions more like them. You can meet them at any church, bar or ball field. They have a lot to teach Washington, if only it will listen.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 216.

TRIBUTE TO SAM ALLGEIER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Sam Allgeier. He was presented with the Excellence in Leadership Award from the Salvation Army at their annual dinner on May 9, 2018.

Mr. Allgeier has coached in the Youth Basketball Program since 1986 and was instrumental in rebooting the program in 2002. He currently is the lead referee and spends many hours recruiting coaches and referees for the program.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Sam Allgeier for receiving this outstanding award and for his continued commitment to making his community better. I am proud to represent him, and Iowans like him, in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Sam Allgeier and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

TO DESIGNATE THE FACILITY AT THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE LOCATED AT 1355 NORTH MERIDIAN DRIVE IN HARRISTOWN, ILLINOIS, AS THE "LOGAN S. PALMER POST OFFICE"

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on August 21, 2017, the USS *John McCain* collided with a merchant ship off the coast of Singapore, in an accident that ultimately killed 10 sailors, including a constituent of mine, Petty Officer Logan S. Palmer of Harristown, Illinois.

This was an absolutely terrible tragedy that became a huge story due to many mistakes that were made leading up to it. After the accident, I spent a lot of time talking with Logan Palmer's family, helping them navigate the uncharted waters of dealing with such a tragedy and consoling them.

Palmer survived the initial collision of the USS *McCain*, but kept himself in harm's way in order to help his fellow shipmates. At age 23, he went far too early. His flag-draped casket was carried into the church on the day of his funeral by a Naval honor guard in dress uniform. Navy officers and sailors saluted the casket, which was surrounded by flowers of red, white and blue. The sailors were followed by troops of Boy Scouts who also saluted Palmer's casket, marking the loss of one of their own; Petty Officer Palmer had achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.

After the experience, we decided it would be appropriate to introduce legislation in Petty Officer Palmer's honor, naming the Post Office in his hometown after him. The bill would designate the post office located at 1355 North Meridian Road in Harristown, Illinois as the "Logan S. Palmer Post Office." I have built a special bond with the Palmer family and feel that it's only appropriate that we honor the Petty Officer in this unique way that will allow those of us in Illinois to always remember Logan as the hero he was.

A NATION'S TEARS IN HONOR OF THE LOST LOVED ONES OF SANTA FE HIGH

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of the eight students and two teachers who were horrifically massacred during the Santa Fe High School shooting. Our prayers go out to them and their families, and the wounded. I include in the RECORD this poem penned in their memory by Albert Carey Caswell.

A NATION'S TEARS
(By Albert Carey Caswell)

A Nation's tears
So lie here
For all those lost loved ones so dear
And their heartbroken families gathered here.

A Nation's tears
As now appear
All in the darkest here
In a parent's worst fears
In what evil has reared
In the darkest of all hearts which appeared.
Young beautiful children with such great futures near

With so many moments up ahead of happiness in the coming years,
Now disappear.

Our children are but the very hope of the world so very clear,

To hold in our arms and hearts to endear
And those teachers so here,
Whose whole life was dedicated to teaching the ones we hold dear.

Now, with all the families left in tears,
With the kind of pain only Heaven can heal.
When, united once again as Angels in arms they feel

As we will remember their beautiful faces,
to warm our hearts in all those cold places
And remember their smiles and try not to cry for a while

And may all the wounded bind up their wounds,
and for their fellow lost students and teachers ever shoot for the moon.

A Nation's tears
Trying somehow to make sense of all this here,

As one things stands clear,

There is darkness

And there is light

All in this battle from the beginning in sight,

Of Good versus Evil,

Of Dark versus Light,

In hearts let us remember the darkness is no match for the light,

The kind which in those lost students and teacher which burned bright.

Let us find peace

Let us find rest

By keeping them in our hearts,

and by leading the lives of the best.

To make a difference with our light in the time we have left,

And now we lay them down to rest.

We pray our Lord their souls to bless,

And their loved one's pain ease no less.

But, take heart for these,

live now as Angel's in the Army of our Lord in peace

And they will watch over you day and night, and in your sleep

And when there comes a gentle,

their tears shall wash down you to ease your pain

Until, up in Heaven you meet again and you won't have to cry no more.

CONGRATULATING THE TOWN OF HOPE ON ITS 200TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 200th anniversary of the Town of Hope.

While formally founded in 1818, the Town of Hope traces its roots back to the 1700s. The Town of Hope was originally part of the Town of Wells, which formed from a 1772 purchase of land in the central Adirondack region from a Native American tribe. It was not until 1818 that Hope seceded from the Town of Wells and formally became a town. Hope quickly grew into a booming center for agriculture and the lumber market.